

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the last office action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-14 under 35 USC §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Kunz et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,471,275.


Applicant has cancelled Claims 1-14 and presented in this response new Claims 15-19 which are submitted as not being anticipated by Kunz et al. Claims 15-19 recite the specific structure in which Applicant utilizes compressive load bearing chains in connection with the linear actuators. The linear actuators are oriented transversely to the direction of movement of the room along the interior wall of the room. The use of chains in this manner has several advantages. First, the chains require less room and can be mounted in the structural members that form the structure for the room. In addition, relatively simple and inexpensive but yet reliable sensors, such as infrared sensors, can be utilized to count the number of links of the chain passing the sensor. The signal produced from the counting of the links is then used to synchronize movement of the chains and thus assure that the room has proper alignment during extension or retraction. Clearly, this structure is not disclosed in Kunz et al and is submitted as being patentable.

It is now believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and Applicant requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Appl. No. 10/064,437
Amdt. Dated December 13, 2004
Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 13, 2004.


James C. Nemmers, Registered Representative